17.6051 063 Iral Hygiene

New Orleans Dental Congress, October 24-27 (see page 1380).



In This Issue:

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The Publisher's Corner

By Mass

Number 326

THIS AND THAT

A FLORIDA FRIEND of the department, Larry Doyle of Fort Lauderdale, suggests a slogan for the exodontists: "We must all pull together, men!"

* * *

The Veterans Administration (which ought to know better) sends a mimeographed news release referring to "doctors and dentists."

* * *

Doctor Howard Hartman, of ORAL HYGIENE'S "Portraits and Profiles" department, will never be content until he feeds me smothered octopus, an advertisement of which we encountered in a Greenwich Village restaurant window while exploring New York some time ago.

* * *

A thought while thinking: When you borrow trouble, you pay heavy interest. And you borrow trouble when you don't need it at all.

* * *

A California friend of this nook, Helen Webster MacDonald of San Bruno, collects odd facts and fancies about teeth. (Mac (Continued on page 1352)

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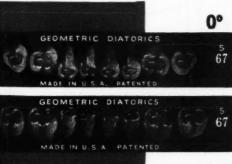
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(Continued from page 1348)

used to sell 'em at the Edwards depot in San Francisco.) This one, for instance: "The natives of a small, very wild community near the headwaters of the Nile collect a tooth from any debtor who cannot pay his debt to any other member of his tribe. Since the loss of a tooth is considered to be a disgrace, debts are paid very promptly." And this one: "Natives of one of the islands down in the South Seas often compel their children to swallow small pearls, convinced that they enter into tooth structure immediately, assuring the kids of pearly teeth."

* * *

Another friend confesses that when he's in a terrible tizzy, and can't reach a decision about something, he writes himself a letter—talks to himself on paper. Because the letter is for his eyes alone, he doesn't pull any punches. He tries to stick to plain facts, even though they make him appear, to himself, in a bad light. Thus, he claims, in reaching a decision he avoids sweeping unpleasant truths under his mental carpet.

* * *

Early in June, right after June ORAL HYGIENE came out, a Louisville friend of the magazine wrote to the CORNER to say—in star-spangled phrases—that he agrees with the young mechanic, the patient Doctor Earl Crary told about, that it was "a hell of a trick" letting him polish his own denture on Earl's lathe.

* * *

Another Louisville reader, Miss E. A. Luster (who works in the dental field), writes to comment on some of the recent Corners reporting dentists' pet peeves. She says patients have 'em too.

As a patient, among her own peeves she tells of arriving early for an appointment, to be greeted languidly by a listless assistant



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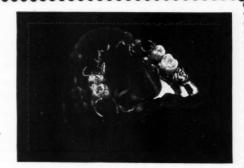
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reading True Stories. While she waited beyond her appointed time, Miss Luster herself was obliged to read three-year-old magazines as other patients came and went. She overheard a phone conversation: "Yes, Mrs. Brown, we're busy. This afternoon? Does the tooth hurt you? Oh, you just want a general checkup. Well, come on in—I believe we can work you in somehow." That, thought Miss Luster, "is why I am having to wait so long."

An hour later, she writes, she was debating about waiting any longer. "Then, finally, I am shown into the sanctum sanctorum. I sit down in the chair, relax, open my mouth and close my eyes. What happens? Nothing! After a while I open my eyes and glance around. I'm all alone." The dentist had gone off somewhere. Finally he came back, she says, then left again. "I hear a conversation about the number of fish in Lake Chauchomega. By this time, I feel like yelling gently: 'Hey, Doc, the hell with the fish in Lake Chauchomega! How about my teeth?"

Then, she continues, finally "the dentist does get around to me. Carefully, he props my mouth open, fills it with cotton rolls, retractors, and other things, then casually he asks me, 'Who put in that lousy bridge?' My attempts to reply are disastrous."

After ten minutes: "I'll have to put in a temporary filling and finish next time. See you Thursday."

Then, remarks Miss Luster, "the assistant removes the tooshort bib which has been choking me, and lets me get out of the elevated chair as best I may."

On the way out, she glanced into the laboratory's open door and saw "a heterogeneous mass, apparently held together by gobs of plaster—dentures, bowls, dirty rags and what-not."

She got back to her own office. "The total elapsed time had been three hours. I've missed my lunch and am cranky all afternoon."

It never happened to me, but Miss Luster says it sure enough did happen to her.



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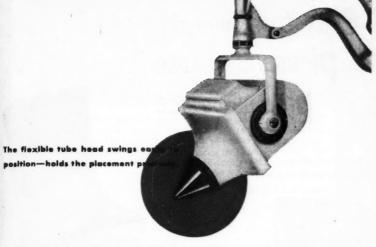


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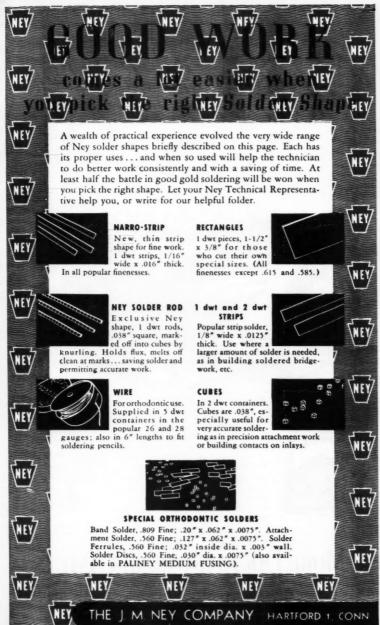
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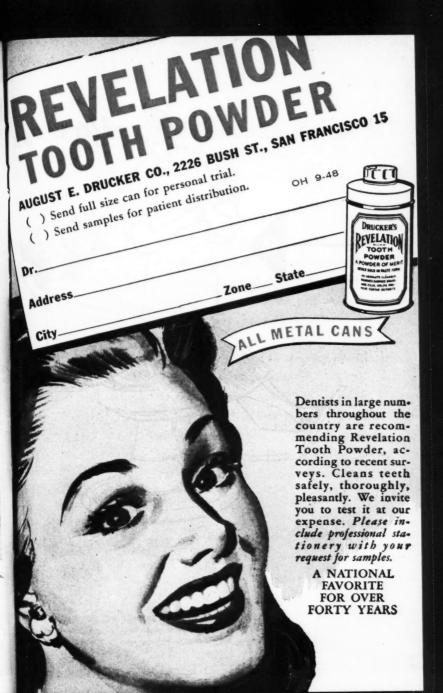


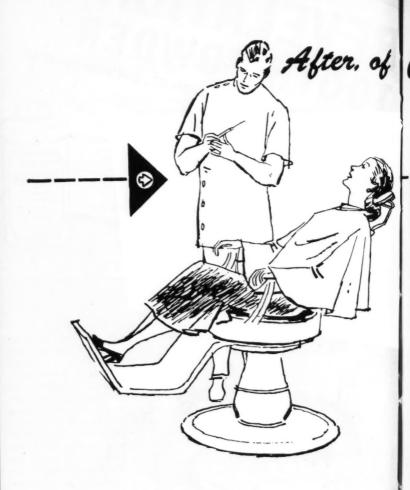
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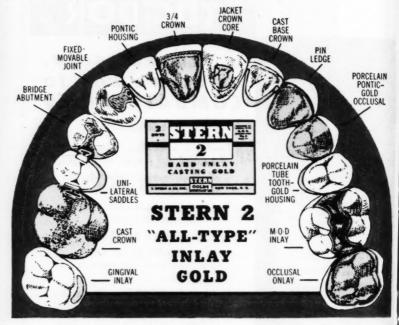
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Oral Hygiene

Circulation more than 70,000 copies monthly

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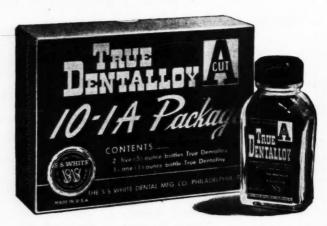
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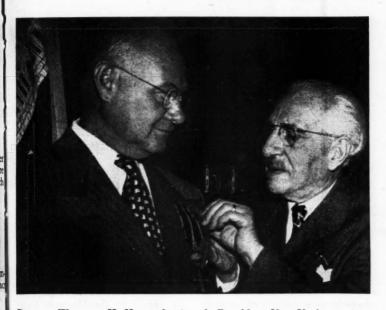
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Picture of the Month



Doctor William H. Hyde, dentist of Brooklyn, New York, receives the Imperial Order of Constantine of Saint Stephen Chevalier Officer class from the Greek Government for meritorious and distinguished services during World War II. Colonel Denys K. Zongos presents the decoration on behalf of the Greek Government. Doctor Hyde served as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Southwest Pacific. He also has received, among other decorations, the Conspicuous Service Cross, the Cross of Valour of the Polish Government, and the Purple Heart.—Photograph submitted by L. N. Nadelbach, D.D.S.

GE

Ten dollars will be paid for the picture used in this department each month. Send gloss prints with return postage to Oral Hygiene, 708 Church Street, Evanston, Illinois.



ARE DENTAL defects and dental infections on a parity with systemic diseases? If a physician can certify the illness of a patient so that sickness-disability benefits can be paid, why cannot a dentist likewise grant such certification?

This is the problem that confronts the dentists of New Jersey as they await the administration of the new Cash-Sickness Disability Fund. The Act takes effect January 1, 1949, and \$50,000,000 has already been allotted to the State by the federal government.

This money actually is the

worker's contribution (1 per cent of wages) to the Unemployment Compensation Fund. It is no government handout. New Jersey is one of but two states (Alabama is the other) that has collected Unemployment Compensation wage deductions from employed persons.

Only two other states, California and Rhode Island, have set up such a nonoccupational sickness benefit act. New Jersey becomes the third state. The public policy of this State, already established, was to protect employees against Cash-Sickness Act fails to include dental illness as reason for benefit eligibility.

the suffering and hardship generally caused by involuntary unemployment. Now wages lost because of inability to perform the duties of a job interrupted by illness would be partly restored through disability benefits. The measure applies only to nonoccupational sickness and accident. It does not conflict with the existing statutes on Workmen's Compensation.

Ultimately \$200,000,000 will be available for the workers of New Jersey who are declared eligible for such benefits. Medical certification of the illness is a requisite step before payments are allowed. But there is nothing in the law referring to dental illness or dental defects as a regular claim for disability benefits.

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Is this legislative indifference to the welfare of dentistry intentional?

The answer is "No." It is the apathy of the dental society that is responsible. On the night of March 24, 1948, the Assembly Chamber of the New Jersey Legislature in Trenton was in a frenzy over the passage of the Cash-Sickness Disability Benefit Fund. Proponents and antagonists of the measure flooded the room with oratorical persuasiveness; lobbyists scurried here and there seeking

needed votes. The debate was bitter, but the measure passed.

Organized Dentistry

As I looked around the Assembly Chamber that memorable night of March 24, I saw the active agents of the New Jersey State Medical Society, the insurance companies, the labor unions, but there was no one in the room speaking for organized dentistry.

I asked several prominent dentists in New Jersey why the profession was not "on the alert." I pointed out that the new law sets up an Advisory Council on Disability Benefits. On this Council will be four representatives of labor, two representatives of employers, two representatives of the insurance companies, and two representatives of the medical profession; all to be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. I wanted to know why there was no representation for the dental profession.

I received some startling replies. In the first place I did not find one dentist who knew that such a law was under discussion. Yet, New Jersey newspapers have been reporting the bill, analyzing it, for the last two years during which the measure was being debated.

I pointed out that there would be many instances of nonoccupational sickness because of dental illness. Why should not the dental profession be admitted to a full partnership with the medical profession in such matters? I pointed out that many dentists would be in a position to share these benefits with their patients if there was a full understanding of the Law; that there might be dental certification, as well as medical certification, before benefit payments could be authorized by the State.

If a worker is disabled through dental defects, he should be legally entitled, under the Act, to prosecute his claim. You will not find such wording in the Bill; but is it implied that illness is illness, no matter what organic disturbance causes it? This is a mooted point that will be clarified. Suppose the dentist makes a number of extractions or treats a stubborn Vincent's infection; isn't his patient entitled to benefits? From such benefit payments he may be able to pay the dentist, the pharmacist, or any other agency that aided his recovery. It is both reasonable and logical, therefore, that the dental profession be alerted to the part it must play in this sickness-disability program.

Will the profession awaken? Not only in New Jersey but in other states where this progressive legislation will spread? My friends in the profession to whom I talked seemed doubtful. They cast a pall of gloom over any attempt to fight for their rightful prerogatives. In every dental society there are only one or two energetic members who must shoulder all the burdens of activity. Many older members of the profession, well-established financially, show scant interest in

ORAL HYGIENE AWARD

This article by Francis L. Golden, D.D.S., has won the \$100 Oral Hygiene award for the best feature published this month.

the problems confronting the new, younger members of the profession. And it is the aid given the younger dentists by Veterans Administration referrals and this new Cash-Sickness Disability Act that may, in many instances, pay much of the monthly overhead.

Dental Lobbying

Another point brought out in the conferences I have had with my friends is the failure of the profession to set up in each state capitol a paid representative to watch carefully every bill introduced into the state legislature. Many legislative measures, while having no immediate direct bearing on dental welfare, may, over the years, affect generally the economy of the state; resulting in lowered dental incomes.

One could not be around the State House in Trenton as long as I have been without observing the groups and organizations who descend on the Legislature each session with bold attempts at slicing the commodity dollar into large chunks for themselves. After they all take their bite, there is little left for the dentist who must depend, in a great measure, on local prosperity for a decent livelihood.

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Eternal watchfulness pays dividends. Back in 1775 our forefathers were concerned with the problem of taxation without representation. They started a successful revolution. It is time the dental profession looked into their lack of representation on many public projects and measures,

Trenton Trust Company Building Trenton, New Jersey

COMMUNISTS TRY TO TAKE OVER A MEDICAL SOCIETY

REMARKABLE proof of Communist strength was given recently in the election of officers of the Medical Society of the County of New York. This is one of the five counties that make up New York City. It is identical with Manhattan Borough.

A Communist front, the Physicians Forum, has long been active in various parts of the United States. This year it was strong enough to enter its own slate in the race for officers of the Medical Society. What it counted on was the fact that few of the members ordinarily vote.

The Communists would have won if the old-line group in the Society had not roused out a big vote by accusing the Physicians Forum of wanting "socialized medicine." Actually the question at issue was much bigger than that of "socialized medicine." The question was whether Communists should get control of the Medical Society of the central borough of the biggest city in the United States. Last year the total vote in the election was 285. This year the Communists alone received more than four times that number. Total vote was 3,287. The old-line ticket received 2,083, the Communist-controlled ticket 1,204.

Although most of the 1,204 physicians who voted for the Communists' ticket are not Communists themselves, many of them are. The Communists appealed to non-Communists by capitalizing on real grievances, like discriminatory practices in medical schools and hospitals, and low pay of physicians who care for the medically indigent in hespitals and dispensaries. One way to defeat Communist influence is by remedying these evils. When a Communist-controlled slate gets 36 per cent of a vote among physicians, it is time to wake up.—From Counterattack, New York City.



Doctor Newman finds that 95 per cent of all extractions can be performed from a sitting position.

Relax And Extract

By MEYER GEORGE NEWMAN, D.D.S.

THE APPLICATION of a person's energies in proportion to the need of any specific problem is concomitant to the quality of the finished work over a definite period of time. I know that we will all agree that vast amounts of energy are consumed because of a dental patient's oral problem. Considering this daily consumption of energy, it is a great wonder that many dentists have not thought to eliminate what amounts to waste.

There is no reason for complaints about back strain and the hard demands a dentist makes on his legs. These physical stresses are well known throughout the dental profession, and I wish to pass on what I have found to be a simple and effective means of reducing them.

In all forms of extraction, impactions included, as well as when administering local anesthetics, I have found that the procedures can be performed without the usual attendant strain of back bending, the tenseness accompanying the standing, or the pulling

The use of an operating stool may mean the elimination of wasted energy for you.

tension on the calves of the legs. The surgeon with a "heavy" appointment schedule would appreciate the advantage of a minimum of physical fatigue during the day. The "tool" with which this can be achieved is an operating stool.

This stool is placed near the arm rest of the chair in which the patient is seated. It in no way interferes with the surgeon when he desires to approach the patient closely. When the operator is seated, his weight is balanced conveniently on the stool and his foot rests lightly in position for the rheostat.

In administering local anesthetics the operator will notice almost instantly that it is much easier to sit and inject than to do the same while standing. The operating stool permits him to adapt himself to various positions beside the patient.

A position slightly behind the patient seems to be favorable for operating on the upper posterior teeth. For the anteriors, a position more to the side or actually facing the patient is more advantageous.

Instead of facing the patient's side and turning from the waist to face the patient, an alternate position may be assumed. This consists in facing the patient directly but to one side. In this position the operator rests his feet



Local anosthetics may be administered with ease when an operating stool is used.



Facing the patient facilitates the extraction of anterior teeth.

on a tiny four- or five-inch stool or the rheostat housing of the motor control.

For the lower posterior and anterior teeth, a slightly different position is required. The stool is placed to the rear of the patient. The surgeon can operate with comfort by facing the same direction as the patient. The dental chair is tipped backward. This position is suited remarkably for lower posterior and anterior treatment. Proceeding from this position the operator can rest an arm around the patient's head. This stabilizes the assumed position and leaves the operator's hands ready for good leverage.

On the basis of experience, the majority of extractions can be accomplished from a sitting position. I have been doing this for over three and one-half years. Of one hundred patients presented for the removal of teeth, 95 per cent of the extractions were executed from

the various sitting positions.

It should be borne in mind that slight variations in sitting techniques will be developed to suit the needs of each person. However, the fundamentals are clearly distinguishable for each operating problem. As with all new procedures, a little experience would be of more use than reams of descriptive literature.

Some "sitting" experience for the operator will benefit the patient as well as himself. The patient will have a dentist who is rested and who is concentrating all his energies on his treatment instead of wasting energy through tense back and leg muscles. The grueling and antiquated method of "straining" over a patient should be discarded for the more beneficial method being advocated.

57 Pratt Street Hartford 3, Connecticut

THE COVER

OUR COVER this month is a picture of the Saint Louis Cathedral in New Orleans, Louisiana. The first annual meeting of the New Orleans Dental Conference will be held October 24 through October 27 at the Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans. It will be conducted by the New Orleans Dental Association and will include a full scientific program with outstanding lecturers and clinicians, commercial exhibits, and entertainment.

The Saint Louis Cathedral was erected in 1794. In Jackson Square in front of the Cathedral, transfer of the Louisiana Colony from Spain to France and from France to the United States took place. The statue of Andrew Jackson, which was erected because of his part in the Battle of New Orleans, may also be seen in the picture.



So You Know Something About Dentistry!



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QUIZ XLVIII

1.	Excessive exposure to x-rays may result in (a) anemia, (b) dental caries, (c) loss of hair, (d) dermatitis, (e) sterility
2.	An amalgam when set contains about (a) 20 per cent, (b) 50 per cent, (c) 70 per cent, mercury.
3.	In the adult tooth, the apical foramen is formed by (a) bone, (b) cementum, (c) dentine
4.	What was W. G. A. Bonwill's contribution to dentistry?
5.	To decrease salivation, which of the following may be used? (a) pilocarpine, (b) ethyl alcohol, (c) atropine, (d) triple bromides
6.	Maximum efficiency of stones is secured when revolving at a (a) slow rate of speed, (b) moderate rate of speed, (c) high rate of speed
7.	What are the two essential components of vulcanite?
8.	Congenital cleft palate occurs once in about every (a) 20,000, (b) 11,000, (c) 1,100, births.
9.	Most frequent failure of the arches resulting from improper contacts is found in the region of the (a) centrals, (b) cuspid and the lateral, (c) bicuspids, (d) first and second molars

10. The average difference between the mesiodistal diameter of the mandibular deciduous incisors and their permanent successors is



My Dentist Talks Double Talk

By SUSAN BOND

"You'd better concentrate on a dentifrice with ricinoleate so that the mucin's adhering qualities will dissolve from the surface of your teeth, eliminating retention plaques."

I rolled my eyes and nodded to my dentist. My mouth was open. I would have agreed with him, however, under any circumstances. I always try not to act ignorant when the man with the white coat and drill makes with the big words.

I kept saying them over and over so I would know them by the time I got to the drug store. On my way downstairs I mumbled them to myself: "Ricinoleate mucin — adhere — eliminating plaques."

When I saw my bus coming I repeated them just once more, "You'd better concentrate—rin—ricin—mucin—hering—retention packs." The bus came and I got on.

I did not have far to ride and I barely had time to repeat my dentist's advice before my stop, "Rinci—mucin adding—dissolve your teeth—irrigate detention packs."

Getting off the bus my mind was filled with the words of my den-

Are your patients bewildered by your dental vocabulary?

tist. That might account for my not seeing the jeep that almost did not miss me when I started for the curb. I guess it frightened me more than I realized, for, when I got to the drug store, I said, "Just let me have a package of 'So-and-So' tooth powder."

During my next visit to the dentist, I told him that I had forgotten his instructions and bought a box of "So-and-So" tooth powder.

"That's fine," he said. "That's exactly what I told you to get."

I do not know whether he thought he might lose my patronage if he made the name sound simple, but I am not at all impressed by the number of syllables in the name of my tooth powder.

I thought perhaps my dentist was the only one who double talks, until I chatted with a neighbor.

"My husband was terribly upset," she said to me, "when I came back from the dentist the other day."

"Why?" I asked.

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"Well, I called him up and told him what Doctor Longword said about the condition of my mouth, and I told him to come right home. I hated to tell him this after all the sickness we've had this winter."

"Did he come right home?" I asked.

"He started to," she said, "but he met one of the dentists from his club, Doctor Fellowship, on the way to his car. Doctor Fellowship thought my husband was running to a fire and asked him what was the matter."

"Did your husband tell him?"
"Yes, he told him what Doctor
Longword said about me—the
area of involvement, the draining
sinus, the foci of infection, and
the urgent surgery."

"That sounds terrible," I said.
"Well, it did to us, too," said
my neighbor, "but Doctor Fellowship just laughed when he heard
it. He told my husband he was
foolish to make such a fuss over
an extraction. That's what all those
fancy words meant!"

Some dentists apparently think they may lose prestige, face, or fee, if they do not pile the vocabulary up high. When a patient's age asserts itself and his gingivae shrink, he is likely to be told: "The recession from the neck of the upper bicuspid indicates periodontoclasia which is a progressive symptom of destruction." Or perhaps he is told that he "must undergo adjustment and reshaping of the teeth by judicious grinding," before he can be a man again.

From under a blanket of six-syllable words, the dentist peeks out to see the effect on the patient. Most patients, not wanting to appear like the ignorant undergraduate, nod knowingly and answer, "Yes, Doc, when do you want to start?"

Occasionally a Mr. I. M. Honest

admits he does not understand.

"What does that mean?" he asks, when the dentist tells him that his mouth presents an unhygienic superficial disturbance requiring prophylactic treatment.

The dentist, sensing that he has perhaps been too athletic with his vocabulary, says, "That means your teeth need cleaning."

The simplicity of the statement makes everybody happy.

A friend of mine tells this story: "About a month ago I went to the dentist. He told me in simple terms that I needed a filling. I was going on a tour of four neighboring towns and had to postpone the work.

"While I was in the first town, the tooth seemed sensitive and I was afraid to let it go. That's why I made a visit to a local dentist.

"'One of your teeth has proximal decay,' he said, looking at me seriously and talking with impressive hesitancy. This tooth requires treatment which would include the excavation of the carious material.'

"I told him I thought it only needed a filling.

"'That's right,' he said, 'That's all you do need.'

"I paid for the examination but decided to wait for the treatment. My curiosity was aroused. I wondered how many dentists were going to say it that way and how many other ways there were of saying that I needed a filling. That's why I called on another dentist in the next town.

"'Your condition,' he said, 'is apparently the result of active infiltration of Lactobacillus acidophilus and immediate excavation is obvious.'

"I again paid for the advice and went on.

"The third dentist was a timidlooking fellow and I felt sure he wouldn't give me double talk. He examined my mouth for a long while and then said, 'Yes, indeed, we shall have to proceed, in this instance, to determine the extent of the involvement through the assistance of the roentgenographic examination. There may be unforeseen difficulty of an undetermined nature.'

"My last visit was a limited one. I got the appointment only via a cancelled date and this man was the town's only dentist.

"'You unquestionably are suffering from the result of an abnormal bite, invasion of caries, plunger cusp, and some recession. This calls for definitive treatment and the placing of a restoration.'

"The following day I was home. I made an appointment with my dentist. When I sat in the chair, I pointed to the tooth and said, 'Fill it.' He did.

"When he told me how much I owed him, I said, 'That's not much for all that work you've done; elimination of proximal decay, excavation of carious material, active infiltration of Lactobacillus acidophilus, use of roentgenographic evidence, plunger cusp, definitive treatment, placing of restoration.'

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"'All of that,' said my dentist, 'means that you needed a filling and you got it.'"

Modern textbooks and courses now stress the relation of the dentist to the personality of the patient as well as to his mouth. Why can't the dentist explain what needs to be done, the reason for the treatment, and the future care required, without confusing words which the patient will probably not remember, and, if he should remember, probably would not understand.

Perhaps added courses in the dental school curriculum on the psychology of the "man behind the open mouth" may be the answer. Dentists could receive instructions on how to gauge the amount of understanding each individual patient is capable of, either by native ability or education. They could develop a "feel" for recognizing which patients understand the classical version and act accordingly. Not every patient knows the meaning of molar, cuspid, antrum, occlusion, acrylic, retention.

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Probably the most common reasons for double talk are these five fears on the part of the dentist:

Fear of his professional authority being questioned.

2. Fear that accompanies shyness and a lack of interest in people.

Fear that accompanies uncertainty of ability or income.

4. Fear of not making a dignified impression.

5. Fear of losing the patient's confidence.

Recently I went to my dentist. I realized, from the pain I was having, that neglect and age were ganging up on my teeth.

"Let's have it straight," I said to him. "None of the double talk."

"Well," he said, after giving my remnants an extra scan, "we'll just yank out these old snags and make you a plate."

I was shocked! I was indignant! I'm asking you, does a dentist have to be so blunt when he's telling you a thing like that?

150 South Harrison Street East Orange, New Jersey

BRITISH AWARD FELLOWSHIPS TO AMERICAN DENTISTS

Two Americans were among four dentists receiving fellowships in dental surgery from the Royal College of Surgeons at ceremonies held recently at the College in London. It was the first time Americans have been included in the fellowships.

Both men were honored by the Royal College for contributions in dental surgery and "distinguished services toward the advance of dental science and the betterment of those who practice it."

They are Doctor Malcolm W. Carr of New York, and Doctor Daniel F. Lynch, Trustee of the American Dental Association, of Washington, D. C.—The New York Times.

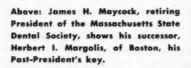


OF AMERICAN DENTISTS

By HOWARD A. HARTMAN, D.D.S.



Below: John J. Gibbons, Toastme at the Presidents' luncheon held ing the meeting of the Massachus State Dental Society in Boston.



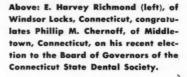


State Dental Society are (left to right): Henry T. Quinn, Greenwich, President-Elect; Clifford W. Vivian, New Britain, President; Louis R. Siegal, Hartford, Vice-President; and Earl S. Arnold, West Hartford, Secretary-Treasurer.

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Henry M. Goldman, pathologist of Boston, Massachusetts, and a member of the Ivory Cross mission now in the Netherlands to conduct courses and clinics for Dutch dentists.



Below: Sidney C. Fournet (left), New Orleans, Louisiana, essayist at the annual meeting in Hartford of the Connecticut State Dental Society; and Henry F. Diana, New Britain, Clinic Chairman of the meeting.







Join The Battle Against The Fear Of Pain

By STEWART EVERSON, D.D.S.

It is the duty of every oral surgeon, as well as every operative dentist, to take an active part in the battle against the fear of pain. The statement made so frequently by patients, "I would rather have a major operation than have a tooth extracted," should serve as an affront to the oral surgeon because it implies that the general surgeon is humane while the oral surgeon is not. Since the same anesthetic agents are available to members of both professions,

there seems to be no excuse for such remarks.

I do not believe that the oral surgeon has the right to hurt a patient in any way, and I should like to stress the meaning of the phrase "in any way." This implies that where are more ways than one in which a person may be hurt, and that is precisely what it is meant to imply. Although a patient may suffer no physical pain during the removal of a tooth under local anesthesia, for example, he may experience untold agonies of psychic and sensory origin. The vision

The proper use of anesthetics in oral surgery will help patients overcome the fear of pain.

of flashing instruments and blood, the unpleasant sounds accompanying the procedure, the feeling of pressure coupled with mental images of the operation are means by which the senses and the psyche may be traumatized. This certainly is detrimental to the principles which conscientious dentists are trying to establish to promote

good oral hygiene.

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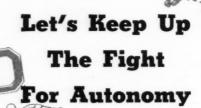
The only way in which all forms of pain may be abolished is to render the patient insensible to psychic and somatic sensation, and the only method by which this may be accomplished completely is through the use of general anesthesia. One hundred per cent successfully is specified because hypnosis may be mentioned as a means of abolishing conscious sensitivity, but this is a selective process inasmuch as all dentists are not hypnotists and all patients cannot be hypnotized. General anesthesia, on the other hand, is not selective as it can be given to almost everyone, and every dentist who will avail himself of the knowledge and skill necessary for its administration can utilize it.

If the oral surgeon is to be victorious in this battle, he must employ an effective weapon to liberate his patients who have been enslaved by the fear of pain for centuries. Personally, I have chosen pentothal sodium intravenous anesthesia for this purpose because I

believe it most nearly approaches the ideal for office surgery; so far as the patients are concerned, most of them are confident that this type of anesthesia has reached the ideal. It is certainly true that the majority of patients who have received pentothal are so appreciative of the experience that they actually look forward to receiving it again and, consequently, are not reluctant about having further oral surgery performed. It is logical to believe that when morbid apprehensions are replaced with favorable mental attitudes regarding dental treatment, the battle against the fear of pain is won.

In the past, fear and pain have been associated inseparably with dentistry and have been regarded as necessary evils. However, in the light of modern advancements in the field of anesthesiology, fear is now reflected as an inexcusable mark of disgrace upon the dental profession. This fear which stands as a shameful blot on every page of dental history should serve as a challenge to the intelligence, compassion, practicality, and honor of every member of the profession. It is up to every dentist to fight and destroy fear, the oldest and most formidable enemy of the profession, with the modern weapons provided by local and general anesthetics.

2007 Wilshire Building Los Angeles 5, California Now is the time to change the status of the Dental Corps.



By ARTHUR W. SPIVEY, D.D.S.*

So FAR AS I can learn there are two thoughts uppermost in the minds of veteran dentists who are still in the military age group; namely, the possibility of another experience in the Armed Service, and the problems of dental treatment for about, eleven million veterans who are at present civilians. These same thoughts hold a high priority in the minds of older dentists, too.

The men who served on the line (the amalgam line, the battle line, the hurry-up-and-wait line) are not looking forward with eagerness to a repeat performance. Those men though, being good citizens, will return to serve in defense of their country when duty calls. I do not think anyone griped about answering the need to preserve our most cherished possessions, our way of life, and our families. Some gave their lives, some received permanent injuries, all gave a lot of time. No one regrets this sacrifice in time of need; neither will they refuse to do it again in time of need.

There were, however, a number of unfavorable conditions about which we all griped, and justly; conditions which need not exist. General Sherman's famous words "War is hell" are probably an understatement, but a little of that hell could be removed with correction of the major causes. Lieutenant Joe Dokes should have been promoted to Captain, but he was not because higher authority than the Chief Dental Officer did not see it that way. A dental clinic

^{*}Chairman, Indiana State Military Affairs Com-

in a certain camp needed special supplies in order to accomplish its mission, but the Chief Dental Officer found his needs denied by higher authority. Captain John Doe needed a five-day leave which his Chief Dental Officer had certified, but higher authority had a different idea. A Chief Dental Officer needed his enlisted personnel for technical duty, but higher authority needed a detail to plant grass seed or do KP. One of these technicians was outstanding in his work and the Chief wanted him to have another stripe, but higher authority could not be bothered with little details which might improve the Dental Corps.

In the first World War, the Dental Corps was so small and inadequately organized that it rightfully needed the command of some other department. The profession and its professional services to federal establishments has now grown to such proportions as to demand the duty and privilege of commanding its own affairs.

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Those were your sentiments during your recent Service. and many were the times when someone said, "Why doesn't the American Dental Association do something about it?" Those were war times and the A.D.A. sent up a trial balloon in the form of autonomy for the Navy Dental Corps. That was a beginning and apparently leaves room for broader action. Efforts toward complete autonomy have become stagnant and need a "shot in the arm." And

now the thought is "That's all behind us. Why worry about it? If the men in the Regular Service want it, let them get it."

If autonomy is desirable, then the A.D.A. is responsible for getting it. You are the American Dental Association. It is easy to say that we need it and we want it, but that is different from getting it. It has often been accepted as the inalienable right of a G.I. to gripe. but it is action and not talk that accomplishes an objective. As for the Regular Service, you know that it is throttled by higher authority. It is quite true that our last taste of Service is losing its bitterness in the sweetness of time, but there may be another dose of bitter medicine coming. History and the movement of current events point toward another tour of the beauty spots and the "notso-beautiful" spots of the world all at government expense.

If we want our next tour of duty to be commanded by dental officers, something besides talk is necessary. If we do not take action now, and soon, it will be too late to ask why the American Dental Association does not do something about it. Instead, we will have to say, "Why didn't we do something when we had a chance?"

In the years between 1942 and 1946, it was often said by dental officers, "When we get to be civilians again, all of us should get together and do something." At the American Dental Association

(Continued on page 1410)



Dentists in the News

Philadelphia (Pennsylvania) Inquirer: Doctor Samuel Mamlet, a dental surgeon of Passaic, New Jersey, recently was decorated with the Legion of Honor for collecting funds and organizing a group to help war-devastated French hospitals after the war. The decoration was presented in Paris by Pierre Abelin, Secretary of State to the Premier's office.

New York (New York) PM: When Doctor Frederick Franck was not in his New York dental office recently, he might have been found at his one-man art show at the Van Diemen Galleries in New York. This dentist has been hailed by one critic as a "vigorous colorist who while responding to modern currents maintained an almost impressionist closeness to Nature and a quite personal feeling." His individual works have sold for \$50 to \$1200.

Doctor Franck was born in the Netherlands where he grew up benefitting from three cultures—Flemish, French, and German. He came to this country in 1939. During World War II he taught German as an instructor in the Army's Specialized Training Program.

When he is not painting, Doctor Franck carries on a profitable dental practice. "It's a kind of schizophrenia to which I have made a very satisfactory adjustment," he reports. He believes the time has passed in this country when artists can be artists and nothing else.

Hanford (California) Sentinel: The

John L. Sullivan Memorial Bible, used on state occasions by Hanford Lodge No. 279, Free & Accepted Masons, now carries the signature of President Truman along with those of other famous men. The Bible was taken to San Francisco by Doctor A. P. Warnock, Hanford dentist, to obtain the signature during the President's trip to the West Coast.

The Bible also contains the signatures of the late President Roosevelt and of Governor Earl Warren of California.

Topeka (Kansas) Daily Capital: At a recent dinner meeting of the Shawnee County Dental Society, Doctor Edward E. Carpenter was honored for his more than fifty years of service to the dental profession. This dentist has practiced in Topeka since 1897, and during that time has been President of the Topeka Dental Society, the First District Dental Society, and the Kansas State Dental Association.

More than three hundred dentists attended the dinner. A plaque and a bound volume of congratulatory letters from his colleagues were presented to Doctor Carpenter.

Denver (Colorado) Post: Doctor B. M. Sinn, a Colorado dentist whose practice covers four counties, has enlarged his dental activities to include making dental appliances for sheep. This appliance is one designed to protect the teeth of a ewe in order to extend her

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biting efficiency and thus her life and lamb-producing capacity.

A Colorado rancher consulted Doctor Sinn two years ago about his sheep's teeth, and the two worked on the problem together. A sheep has no incisors



in its upper jaw. In its lower jaw are eight front teeth with which it scoops under and snips grass. In time these teeth deteriorate. The center four spread apart, the corners wear and finally break off. With these teeth no longer useful, the sheep cannot forage. They are fattened on soft foods and then slaughtered. In the short-grass range country, a ewe survives an average of six years; while in the long-grass country, it will live up to twelve years.

The new appliance is shaped to fit across the cutting edge and inside of the ewe's lower jaw and is clamped on by pliers.

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New York (New York) Herald Tribune: Two specialists, Doctor George R. Moore, head of the Department of Orthodontics at the University of Michigan, and Doctor Henry M. Goldman, head of the Dental Research Department at Beth Israel Hospital, Boston, sailed recently for Holland as an Ivory Cross mission to help rehabilitate the Dutch dental profession.

The Netherlands government has conferred the Order of Orange-Nassau upon three American dentists, Doctor J. L. T. Appleton, Dean of the University of Pennsylvania Dental Institute; Doctor Lester W. Burket, of the same school; and Doctor L. Herbert Loeb, dental surgeon of Boston; who organized and were a part of an Ivory Cross mission which went to Holland in 1946 to give courses and clinics for Dutch dentists.

Philadelphia (Pennsylvania) Inquirer: Doctor Harry Lepman, a dentist of Colmar Manor, Maryland, has discovered what he believes to be the origin of the elephant as the emblem of the Republican Party.

This dentist, a collector of presidential campaign buttons, recently found an old badge issued by a quasi-military organization, probably named after Senator Salmon P. Chase, of Ohio, a politician of the pre-Civil War days who became President Lincoln's Secretary of the Treasury. The badge has an elephant in the center, and at the top the words: "The man whose name we bear." Beneath the elephant is the legend "Chace Guard."

The Guard was organized in 1854, two years before the Republican convention in Philadelphia. Chase spelled his name with an "S" instead of a "C," but Doctor Lepman has discovered that he frequently wrote "S" so that it looked like a "C."

The famous political cartoonist, Thomas Nast, is credited with originating the elephant in the GOP symbol.

Awards for items published in this month's DENTISTS IN THE NEWS have been sent to:

HARRY S. HALPERN, D.D.S., 36th and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia 4. W. E. Cutts, D.D.S. 202 Washington Street, Hartford, Connecticut. R. H. HAMILTON, D.D.S., 1000 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas. ESTHER M. SPOONER, 266 Newbury Street, Boston 16. Mrs. EMMETT DAVISON, General Delivery, Colorado Springs, Colorado. M. B. NEWMAN, D.D.S., 1410 Morris Avenue, Bronx, New York.





Get Yourself





of Your Worries





By ROLLAND B. MOORE, D.D.S.

Too MANY dentists let their practices rule their lives. They lock their office doors when the last patient leaves, then go home and worry about this case or that case. And their worry solves nothing. They think about the impressions they took that day for old Mr. Smith's full upper and lower dentures. "Poor lower ridge. Flat arch above. Wonder if a denture can be made for that upper that will stay up." Or maybe it is Mrs. Jones' bridge, They take their cases to bed with them and lose half a night's sleep in worry.

I know how this all goes. I too worried over my practice. I was specializing in dentures in a large middle-western city. Some of my difficult cases worried me almost ill. But not any more.

One morning my technician, Gilbert, said to me, "Doctor, do you ever dream about some of our denture cases when you go to bed at night?"

"Gilbert," I replied, "I never dream about them. I don't have time after lying in bed awake three-fourths of the night, think-

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Ride a hobby for physical and mental health.



ing about them." I saw that I was letting my practice make a slave of me.

"Why don't you get yourself a hobby and ride it after you go home? Get your mind off of the office," Gilbert suggested.

So I got myself a hobby. Something I had always wanted to do. After that I locked my dental worries in the office when I locked the door after a day's practicing. I made writing my hobby. First I started as a news correspondent. Then I changed to article writing for trade journals. I found the work interesting even if it was not well paid. I sold articles to a wide variety of trade journals; bankers' magazines, laundry, grocery, and even to a bee and honey magazine. Whenever I ran across something interesting I wrote it up.

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Then I took a course in creative writing and have been selling consistently for a number of years. If I wanted to give up my profession and give all my time to my hobby, I could make a good living. I laugh to myself when I think of the first acceptance I had after finishing my course in creative writing. I sold a story to a confession magazine for \$75. I confess it was mostly creative. I am glad though that now I can open my office in the morning and feel

rested after a good night's sleep. My practice no longer worries me.

Remunerative Hobbies

I have a friend in southern Idaho with a large practice. We attended dental college together. His hobby is raising silver foxes. He told me he makes as much money from his foxes as he takes in each year in his dental office.

A dentist at Indianola, Iowa, raises Palomino riding horses and sells all he can raise to the wealthy people of the East. He gets almost unbelievable prices for what he has to sell.

Another dental friend of mine in California is an ardent fisherman and had always bought his flies. Then he learned fly tying for his own use and amusement. Now at home after a day in his office, he ties flies for some of the big sporting goods houses.

A Des Moines, Iowa, dentist owns a resort in Minnesota in the lake region. He is a licensed pilot and has his own plane. He flies guests up to his resort; then brings them back again by plane. He does this particularly on week ends during the hunting and fishing season.

I have another friend practicing in California who collects old firearms and repairs them himself. He has hundreds of them in glass wall cases in his office.

Another dental friend collects rare coins. Every night he examines the money in his pocket and often finds some pieces on which there is a premium. He told me he sells to numismatic banks and to private collectors and that I would be surprised to know how much he makes in a year doing so.

I know half a dozen or more dentists whose hobby is stamp collecting. Then I have a dental friend whose hobby is woodworking. He has good power machines in his basement at home and he turns out beautiful pieces of furniture.

In selecting a hobby, one need not seek a pastime that will take a big cash outlay. If one rides a hobby that brings him in a few dollars now and then, those dollars seem to have a special value to him. And at the same time he has stopped worrying over his patients. I actually know a dentist in the lake region of northern Iowa who, not knowing what else to do for a hobby, began raising fish worms for bait for the fishermen at a nearby lake. Another dentist raises hamsters, a prolific small animal now much used in experimental work. He sells all he can raise to medical colleges, physicians doing research, to manufacturing pharmacists, and hospitals.

Get yourself a hobby and lock your worries behind you when you lock your office. A hobby that will take you outdoors will be most healthful. But find some kind of hobby that interests you and that will take your mind off your office. Do as Doctor Grav of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has been doing. Spade up your back yard and raise a vegetable garden. It gets him outdoors, gives him the exercise he needs, and cuts down his grocery bill. The last time I visited him, he insisted on showing me his garden immediately. He was proud of those huge Ponderosa tomatoes, those sleek bluish-black egg plants, and his garden peas. He insisted on pulling a turnip to show me how superior it was to what is sold in the markets.

He said, "Since taking up gardening, I feel a hundred per cent better. When I slam my office door shut at night, I say, "There now. Take care of yourself until tomorrow morning. I'm done for today."

Box 296 Redfield, Iowa

CAN YOU USE A DOLLAR?

To every reader who contributes a newsworthy item, something unusual about a dentist, which is published in Dentists in the News, (see page 1392) we will send at promptly a crisp, new one dollar bill. Every clipping must be taken from a news shaper and carry the name of the publication and the date line. Clippings submitted cannot be returned. When more than one copy of a clipping is submitted, the first one received will be used. Send all items to Dentists in the News, Oral Hyciens, we 708 Church Street, Evanston, Illinois.



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Technique of the Month

Conducted by W. EARLE CRAIG, D.D.S.

Drawings by Dorothy Sterling

Improved Esthetics for Acrylic Faced Cast Gold Crown

By I. FRANKLIN MILLER, D.D.S., M.A.



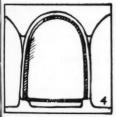
Prepare tooth as you would for jacket crown, with well-defined shoulder and straight taper.



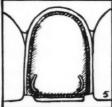
Using Zephyr 40-gauge matrix gold over preparation, shape the gold down over the shoulder, making a slight collar around tooth preparation.



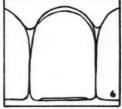
Carve in inlay wax over the gold matrix to the desired contour of crown.



Carve out for acrylic face. Bezel margins well. Use inverted cone bur (33½) after crown is cast to sharpen undercut. Cut out itted first incisal angles from the wax, as shown.



Make two wax loops (19 gauge) or ears on the labial—one toward the mesio-incisal and one toward the disto-incisal angles in the deep recesses of the axial angle,



Cast and polish. Carve up for acrylic face in white wax. Process. Note small amount of gold on incisal.



How To Avoid
The "Dental

Crank"

By MAURICE J. TEITELBAUM, D.D.S. You may find this dentist's advice helpful in treating your denture patients.

Probably no aspect of dental treatment requires a more sympathetic, kindly, and friendly attitude on the part of the dental practitioner than that demanded in full-denture service. In no other branch of the profession is a greater degree of esthetic change so apparent. Neither does any dental procedure demand greater cooperation from the patient or cause greater emotional disturbance.

The feeling of inferiority; fear of old age and insecurity; fear of the inability to chew properly; or of dentures falling out while conversing—these thoughts and hundreds of others, each one peculiar to the particular individual's personality, plague the prospective full-denture patient. And with all this, there is the memory of the "perfect function" of his "own" teeth which are no more.

Full-Denture Patient

Failure to recognize the mental images that a denture patient envisions and the inability to cope with this problem cause more dissatisfied and unhappy patients than a set of imperfect impressions. Most difficult to handle is the patient who has just undergone a "clean out." Here the transition from a complement of natural

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teeth (no matter how defective they may have been) to a set of artificial ones is truly a painful psychologic as well as physical experience. The memories of his "own" teeth are still vivid in his mind.

Unless that patient is prepared carefully for the introduction of dentures, even a well-made set of teeth may be doomed to failure as the patient begins to compare function and esthetics with his former dentition. Emotional upset and frustration, followed by disgust and impatience, finally result in the inability to wear the dentures. This may be overcome in time, but meanwhile you are constantly haunted by the presence of a "denture crank." The teeth, in your judgment, seem to be attractive, centric is good, retention is good, and the dentures are in good functional, balanced occlusion. You also feel that you have expended the necessary time and effort to bring about this seemingly good result. But the patient complains that he cannot chew his food well, that his face is distorted, and that the teeth "just don't feel right."

Psychologic Adjustment

What has happened? Wherein lies the difficulty? Is the patient really a "crank"? No, he is not. What then? Assuming that the case is technically correct from all physical aspects, it follows that the patient is mentally distressed. Why? First, you have promised

him all sorts of things when he agreed to the estimated fee and made his first payment. You told him, in your enthusiasm, that the teeth would be perfect, that they would fit tightly, that he would be able to chew anything, that no one would ever know that they were artificial, and that the dentures would feel like his "own" teeth.

By the time the dentures are inserted, you probably have forgotten your promises, but the patient has not. In fact, he has remembered every word. It follows, then, that you should never make a promise to a patient that you cannot possibly fulfill. The dissatisfaction of a denture patient will depend, to a great degree, upon the extent of the difference between that which the patient is led to expect and that which he actually receives. This is a rule that I like to call "The Law of Satisfaction and Dissatisfaction."

Suppose you have not promised the patient anything. In fact, you just went about your business and said nothing about the results the patient was to expect. Why the difficulty? In these cases the patient will usually start to expect the results his friends have had or even his friends' friends. This usually proves to be most disastrous. In the majority of cases a patient never relates a dental experience with clarity or accuracy. If his full lower denture moves, he will swear to you that his friend's never moves. His friend told him so. But what his friend forgot to tell him was that his lower denture had three clasps on it. No malice intended on the part of the friend; he probably did not think it made any difference.

Then there is always the cousin who had teeth made and the next day was chewing chicken bones without the slightest amount of discomfort. That particular cousin has usually been wearing dentures for twenty years and remembers every detail of the day after insertion, but ask him what he had to eat for breakfast two days ago and he has forgotten. And, of course, there is the patient who, when he drops his teeth in the washbasin and chips an incisor, tells you his friend never broke any of his teeth and that you have used an inferior material.

Making extravagant promises and saying nothing are both courses that will lead to trouble. The proper preparation for the patient who is to wear dentures is, first, the recognition of the patient's personality, and, second, the utilization of that knowledge in informing him clearly, slowly, and truthfully what he may expect so far as the performance of his artificial dentures is concerned.

Assuming that we understand the thinking of the denture patient, what then shall we tell him? Tell him that these artificial dentures are exactly that—artificial. He will no more be able to eat as well or feel as well with them as compared with his "own" than he would be able to walk with an arti-

ficial limb as compared with his own limb. Dentures, after all, are oral crutches. But he is not to be discouraged because you will see to it that, with his cooperation and patience, he will have a set of teeth that will, after a period of adjustment, be comfortable, function properly, and look well. He is to understand that the teeth will never feel like his own, although in time they may well seem to be an indispensable part of himself. So far as mastication is concerned. he will have to learn to chew differently and, although he may be able to manage most foods, some will always be a problem.

Explain the process of bone resorption, of the settling of the dentures, and of the change of muscle tone. Then tell him that the teeth are certainly breakable, but caution him as to the care of the dentures so that breakage may be kept at a minimum. All these points, and many others peculiar to each particular patient whose problems you have become acquainted with through initial contact and interrogation, must be explained carefully until understood.

The time spent at the onset, before any preliminary impression or measurement is taken, to clear the groundwork for the introduction of dentures, will save you many hours of annoying complaints, endless adjustments, and help you avoid the "denture crank."

446 Clinton Place Newark 8, New Jersey 3

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SO YOU KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT DENTISTRY!

Answers to Quiz XLVIII

(See page 1381 for questions)

- (a) anemia, (c) loss of hair,
 (d) dermatitis, (e) sterility.
 (Ennis, L. M.: Dental Roent-genology, 3rd Edition, Lea & Febiger, 1939, pages 554-558)
- (b) 50 per cent mercury.
 (Ward, M. L.: American Textbook of Operative Dentistry,
 7th Edition, Lea & Febiger,
 1940, page 480)
- 3. (b) cementum. (Kronfeld, Rudolf: Histopathology of the Teeth and Their Surrounding Structures, 2nd Edition, Lea & Febiger, 1939, page 216)
- 4. Devised the first instrument with a mechanism to reproduce mandibular movements. (Anthony, L. P.: The American Textbook of Prosthetic Dentistry, 7th Edition, Lea & Febiger, 1942, page 235)
- 5. (c) atropine. (Accepted Dental Remedies, 12th Edition, American Dental Association, 1946, page 140)

- (c) high rate of speed. (Tylman, S. D.: Crown and Bridge Prosthesis, Mosby, 1940, page 100)
- Caoutchouc and sulfur—other ingredients are coloring agents, fillers, and catalytic agents. (Anthony, L. P.: The American Textbook of Prosthetic Dentistry, 7th Edition, Lea & Febiger, 1942, page 394)
- (c) 1,000 to 1,200 births. (Kemper, J. W.: The Responsibility of the Surgeon in Treating Palatal and Related Defects, Am. J. Orthodont. & Oral Surg. 32:667 [November] 1946)
- 9. (b) cuspid and lateral. (Tylman, S. D.: Crown and Bridge Prosthesis, Mosby, 1940, page 83)
- 10. (b) 6 mm. (Dewey, Martin, and Anderson, G. M.: Practical Orthodontics, 6th Edition, Mosby, 1942, page 80)

WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS

When you change your address, please always furnish your old address as well as the new one. If your post office has zoned your city, the zone number should be included. Please send address change promptly to Oral Hygiene, 1005 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh 22, Pennsylvania,



Editorial Comment

"Give me the liberty to know, to utter, and to argue freely according to my conscience above all liberties." John Milton

DENTISTS MISS THE BOAT

Anyone who has ever had an acute alveolar abscess or a "dry socket" following an extraction knows that he has been sick. People lose thousands of hours of working time each year and hundreds of thousands of dollars in wages because of dental disabilities. It is ironic, therefore, that dental diseases and their complications are not covered under state disability laws.

In his vigorous article in this issue Doctor Golden shows how the apathy of the dental profession in New Jersey allowed a cash-sickness bill to become a State law without a provision for cash indemnity to be paid people suffering from dental disability upon certification by a dentist. Here is a fund that now amounts to \$50,000,000 and will eventually amount to \$200,000,000. The law includes no provision whatsoever for a person to collect from the fund for dental disease unless such a condition is certified by a physician. How would you like to have a patient under treatment for Vincent's infection, postoperative osteitis, an acute alveolar abscess, or any other condition, and be required to tell the patient that you who had treated the case had no authority under the law to certify for his cash compensation?

We have been struggling for autonomy and administrative freedom from medicine. In the military service we were and still are subservient. This situation in New Jersey is a fine example of what can happen in civilian practice if we are indifferent and uninformed.

At present there are three states, California, Rhode Island, New Jersey, that have nonoccupational sickness-benefit acts. These programs are not doles or government handouts. The funds have been collected by payroll deductions and are intended to compensate workers for wages lost because of interruption of employment caused by illness. The indemnities payable are for nonoccupational sickness and accidents.

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ess. nts. We may expect other states to attempt similar legislation. It is an opportunity to present evidence to show that many dental conditions are disabilities and that dentists, and dentists alone, are qualified to certify such cases for indemnification.

Doctor Golden does not write from an ivory tower when he comments on legislation and lobbying. He was secretary to former Governor Hoffman of New Jersey and is presently on the executive staff of the Unemployment Compensation Commission of his state. As a former newspaper man and practical administrator he has seen the inside workings of special pressure groups and lobbyists. From his realistic world he gives this sound advice to dental groups: "Another point brought out in the conferences I have had with my friends is the failure of the profession to set up in each state capitol a paid representative to watch carefully every bill introduced into the state legislature. Many legislative measures, while having no immediate, direct bearing on the dental welfare, may, over the years, affect generally the economy of the state; resulting in lowered dental incomes." To say it bluntly Doctor Golden is recommending the employment of paid lobbyists.

The dentists who serve their societies on legislative committees are entitled to our appreciation for good and unselfish service. An amateur lobbyist, however, may be up against stiff competition in the legislative halls from professional lobbyists skilled in influencing the deliberations of lawmakers. Most dentists who have worked with legislators have done their work on a part-time basis; not too strongly supported by sentiment or finances by the members of their own dental societies.

The dentists of New Jersey by not being alert to the provisions of the cash-disability law have done their patients and themselves a flagrant disservice. They have deprived patients of the right to compensation for a dental condition that may interfere with employment. They have denied themselves additional and honest income. When similar laws are introduced in other states dentists should see that they are authorized to sign certificates for disability benefits that arise from dental conditions.

Eduard J. Ryan



Ask Oral Hygiene

Please communicate directly with the Department Editors, V. Clyde Smedley, D.D.S., and George R. Warner, M.D., D.D.S., 1206 Republic Building, Denver, Colorado, enclosing postage for a personal reply.

Immediate Dentures

Q.—Will you give me the steps in detail about what to do for immediate dentures? I graduated from dental school in 1916 and have been in practice since then, but since that time the procedure of extracting the posterior teeth and leaving in situ the upper front teeth from cuspid to cuspid, including the cuspids, has come into practice. Is the same thing done on the lower teeth? I understand from the best authorities that in twelve months an entire new set of upper and lower dentures is advisable as the gingivae will certainly shrink after extraction.

How do you take care of sharp pieces of process after extraction? Should the sharp edges be smoothed away with surgical burs? If so, what burs is it advis-

able to use?

I have a patient who wants an immediate upper denture. He has his own lower teeth. He has two upper centrals, two upper lateral roots, a left upper cuspid root, a right upper cuspid root, two upper left molars, and a posterior upper right molar root. These posterior molars and bicuspids should be extracted. How long do you wait before taking out the anterior teeth from cuspid to cuspid?

Would you explain these steps in detail?—E. A. P., Rhode Island.

A.—You ask me to tell you in detail how to make immediate dentures and then you describe procedures from "the best authorities" with which I do not agree. After you have read this you may follow my procedure or that of the "authorities," whichever you prefer.

The immediate denture is, it seems to me, an absolute "must" in every modern dental practice.

The procedure we follow is first to secure good full-mouth roentgenograms; including roentgenograms of all edentulous areas.

When it is decided that all remaining teeth must be extracted, the posterior teeth are extracted first, usually one side at a time, with several days separating the sittings for these extractions. Preferably in two or three weeks after the extraction of the last of the posterior teeth, a hydrocolloid impression is made of the remaining anterior teeth and the entire edentulous area extending well up into the palate and high around the entire periphery.

The tooth selection is made at this time and the impressions are poured promptly in your favorite cast stone. After separation in an hour or two, the anterior of the impression is poured again and retained as a permanent record of the teeth before extraction.

The centric relation is recorded at a subsequent sitting. At still another sitting the posterior setup is tried in and approved.

The postdam is prepared at this time across the junction of the hard and soft palate through the

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sphenopalatine notches by grinding a groove into the cast with a No. 10 round bur and beveling the edge of the groove anteriorly. The depth of the groove to be provided is determined by the compressionability of the tissue as determined by pressure with the edge of a small mouth mirror. After the postdam is carefully prepared in this way, moisten the cast, soften the wax across the heel of the baseplate and adapt it thoroughly to prepared groove. Hold the denture in the mouth with firm pressure with the left hand while you examine the posterior border with a mouth mirror. If the tissue at any portion of the postdam is blanched by this pressure, the cast has been grooved too deeply; and if, as you touch the soft palate back of the denture with the mirror, the soft palate raises to show a space above the denture, the preparation is not deep enough.

Next, in the patient's presence, the anterior teeth are removed from the cast one at a time and replaced with the porcelain or acrylic substitutes, imitating the natural teeth as accurately as you and the patient agree that they should be imitated, and making any improvements in position, color, and arrangement that you think best with the patient's interested approval.

Carve the cast and set each artificial tooth in at the labiogingival the exact amount that your judgment tells you the soft tissue will collapse after the removal of the teeth without the removal of any this bone except sharp or detached spicules.

The entire cortical plate should be conserved except for those peo-

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ple who display their own gingivae abnormally or objectionably, and in these cases as radical an alveolectomy should be performed as esthetics indicates. Where necessary, an acrylic base can be finished to paper thinness to avoid excessive labial contour and still conserve as much bone as possible.

Ridges are carved on the cast to a full, rounded form. The cast moistened, and incompletely healed molar and bicuspid sockets and deep buccal undercuts are filled in with a fresh soft mix of stone.

The object is to encourage nature to conform during the healing process to the matrix of an ideally shaped mouth which is provided in the immediate denture that has been made as herein described.

After inserting several hundred such dentures over a period of ten or more years, I find that in better than 20 per cent of these patients their mouths conform in healing so accurately to the denture form provided in the immediate denture that they never require rebasing or renewing to improve the fit.

In those cases where shrinkage does occur I tell my patients that they can either have the immediate dentures rebased or have new dentures made, keeping the original set as a "spare"; and that this may need to be done anytime from six months to two years.

The immediate dentures are inserted immediately following the extraction of the anterior teeth with disclosing wax across the labial, buccal to the tuberosities, and, in my technique, over the hard area in the median line. I want the hard palate to carry its share of the load of the stress of mastication and, therefore, we do not use an air chamber or provide relief in the impression. The denture is now seated firmly with finger pressure, removed and ground with a large round bur where the displacement of the disclosing wax indicates excess pressure. This can be repeated several times until tissue bearing is equalized.

Man is the most adaptable being on earth and the human body adjusts itself to whatever task is put upon it; provided it is within Nature's physiologic ability to meet the stress. It therefore seems logical that an immediate denture should be so constructed as to conserve bone and stimulate circulation, and it should be made with a balanced occlusion with the teeth so arranged as to keep the denture seated instead of exercising unseating and traumatizing forces.

It is important to insist that patients must keep immediate dentures in their mouths continuously to mold properly the blood clot and soft tissue to the desired form of the denture splint or bandage. We always have the patient return to the office the next day and every day or two for several days for us to remove and cleanse the denture and adjust any pressure spots that may develop.—V. CLYDE SMEDLEY.

Dissolution of Enamel

Q.—I have a patient, a man about twenty-seven years of age, whose condition is causing me concern.

In the last two years this patient has visited my office several times complaining that his teeth were so sensitive he could not eat. Clinical examination revealed no occlusal abrasion, no cervical caries, and virtually no gingival marginal recession. Bitewing roentgeno-

grams reveal no interproximal caries, Several weeks ago the patient again came to my office, distressed to the point that he was willing to have all of his teeth extracted. I was amazed, upon examining his teeth again, to find that on the buccal surfaces of several upper teeth, and apparently beginning on several lower teeth, the enamel was seemingly melting away. This condition starts at the gingival margin of the teeth and continues on about one-third of the teeth toward the occlusal surfaces. There is no caries present on any of the teeth.

This patient is afflicted with epilepsy and takes dilantin sodium and phenobarbital regularly. There is no swelling of the gingival tissues; they are firm, of a good color, and healthy.

For the last few months he also has been taking some minerals, which he believes have been beneficial to a stomach disorder.

In the past he has been a heavy eater of sweets, but he has curtailed this considerably because of the sensitive condition of his teeth. However, he is still an excessive gum-chewer.

If you can make any suggestions for treatment, I shall be most grateful to you.—G. I. M., Texas.

A.—Your most interesting and unusual case has required much thought, consultation, and even speculation.

We know from wide experience that the rapid dissolution of enamel usually results from its being exposed to liquids of a low pH: for instance, citrus fruit juices hard fruit candies, and hydrochloric acid. So it would seen reasonable to suppose that the loss of enamel in your case is because of some of the drugs he is taking or because the saliva from his parotid glands has an exceptionally low pH.

You could test the saliva from Stensen's duct with litmus paper or, better still, collect enough of the parotid gland saliva so the 948

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you may immerse the crown of a freshly extracted tooth in it and test the patient's whole saliva the same way. It would also be a good idea to test the prescription which he is taking for his stomach for its pH.

We have found, and others¹ have found also, that excessive gum chewing is likely to result in gingival caries, but we have not had the dissolution of enamel from excessive gum chewing.

As to treatment, it seems to us that finding and removing the cause of the loss of enamel is the treatment.

We are much interested in this case and should appreciate hearing from you as to what you find out upon following out these suggestions.—GEORGE R. WARNER.

Hypertrophic Gingivitis

Q.—I should greatly appreciate some information concerning a case of a young woman about twenty-four years of age whose gingival tissue on the lower anterior has grown about one-fourth inch in a thin layer up the labial surface of the teeth.

I should like to have your advice regarding the cause and treatment of this case.—R. G. W., Indiana.

A.—Without knowing more about the history of your patient, one cannot well assign a cause to the proliferation of labial gingivae of the mandibular anterior teeth. This condition, known as hypertrophic gingivitis, may be of systemic or local origin, and, in some cases, of unknown origin. The systemic origin of hypertrophic gingivitis may be metallic poisoning, from the use of drugs (dilantin

sodium, for instance), pregnancy, diabetes, scurvy, leukemia, and other conditions. The local origin is usually calcareous deposits or food debris.

Because of the possibility of a combination of systemic and local causes in a given case, it is always wise first to look for and treat a local cause. The local treatment by the dentist is the removal of all detritus of whatever nature and polishing of the subgingival tooth areas. One must have the full cooperation of the patient in systematic and thorough brushing, use of silk tape, and interproximal stimulators.

Orban² advises the use of a 30 per cent solution of H₂O₂ in certain types of gingival hypertrophy.

In cases such as yours, if local treatment fails to produce results, a gingivectomy should be performed.—George R. Warner.

Rampant Caries

Q.—A patient of mine, a woman about fifty years of age for whom I have been rendering periodic service for the last ten years, has had little restorative treatment done during that time; her mouth being in a healthy condition. However, about two years ago her teeth became carious with such rapidity that at present most of them are restored interproximally. And now caries is becoming rampant gingivally and appearing on the incisal edge of the anterior teeth in some places.

When this condition was noted I suggested that she consult her physician, who for a period administered vitamins with an excess of Vitamin D. This, however, did not alter the condition. Her health physically is excellent and I am at a loss to account for the sudden onset of this condition.

¹Fleisch, L. M.: Is Chewing Gum a Safe Dental Therapeutic Agent? J.A,D.A. 29:1011 (June) 1942.

²Orban, Balint: Action of Oxygen in Chronically Inflamed Gingival Tissues, J.A.D.A. 29:2018 (November) 1942.

Any information you can give me will be greatly appreciated.—H. O. G., California.

A .- Doctor G. V. Black called attention many years ago to the fact that people might have periods of immunity and periods of susceptibility to caries throughout life. As we all know, the most common period of susceptibility is in the teen years. Then it is not uncommon to have another period of occurrence of caries at about the age of your patient. This may result in some cases from the menopause with perhaps its disturbances of the endocrine glands. It would seem, in some cases, to result from a profound emotional disturbance, such as grief.

So far as your letter states, your patient is in excellent health, so I cannot account for the sudden and serious onset of carious destruction in her case.—George R. Warner,

Traumatic Devitalization

Q.—Several days ago I noticed that the upper left central of my 21-monthold son is turning dark. The devitalization no doubt results from one of the bad falls he has taken. There is no fracture and apparently no pain.

Will you please inform me concerning the latest thought in the treatment of this condition? Any information you can give me will be greatly appreciated. —F. C. T., Kansas.

A.—It often happens that the traumic devitalization of a deciduous maxillary incisor is not followed by infection of the pulp. I roentgenograph these cases, and if there is no evidence of periapical infection they can be left alone. If there is periapical infection it is possible to sterilize and fill the root canal; especially in the case of

your own child who would probably cooperate with you.—George R. Warner.

Denture Dislodgment

Q.—I have made a full upper denture and partial lower denture for a man about forty-five years of age. He has excellent ridges, a well-rounded vault, and about 1 to 2 mm. of gingival tissue over the bone. The saliva seems to be of about the proper consistency.

The upper denture, when placed in the mouth, has good stability until he says a few words; then it loosens and drops.

I trimmed the periphery where there were muscle attachments, postdammed, and tried corrective wash, but could not improve the retention. He can wear it with powder.

I shall appreciate it if you can give me any suggestions.—C. J. M., Wyoming.

A.—Your letter indicates that you have considered carefully and taken proper care of all the factors that usually are responsible for denture dislodgment in such a normal mouth. You do not mention that you have provided correct occlusal balance; but no doubt you have, and since it is during speech and not eating that the denture loosens, it would seem unlikely that the difficulty is in the occlusion.

I would recheck the occlusion carefully with red disclosing wax melted onto the occlusal surfaces. First, with a gentle tap-tap-tap action, determine whether any cusps or inclined planes are in premature contact. If so, correct by grinding with repeated tests, after which check similarly in protrusive, lateral, and all intermediate positions of the jaw.

After you are satisfied that there

is no dislodging occlusal stress, add a small roll of temporary denture lining material all around the periphery and across the postdam. After firm seating of the denture, have the patient talk, open his mouth wide, and exercise all the muscle functions that he can. This lining material can be worn for several days or weeks to determine whether satisfactory retention is accomplished, after which it can be replaced with the denture base material.—V. CLYDE SMEDLEY.

Excessive Saliva

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Q.—I have a patient who has difficulty with excessive saliva at night during his sleep.

Roentgenograms have been taken, the occlusion of his teeth is normal, there is no evidence of gingival infection of any type, and no carious teeth are present.

The saliva stains the pillowcase and he tells me the stain is about two inches in diameter.

There does not appear to be any acid condition present, and he has tried various mouthwashes without success. Is there anything that can be done to eliminate this condition?—B. F. S., New Jersey.

A.—Prinz and Greenbaum³ enumerate a long list of possible causes of this condition. If and when the excess of saliva is pathologic, as it may be in your case, the systemic cause should be determined and treatment should be directed thereto. However, the flow can be checked by the administration of belladonna or its active principle, atropine. These drugs should be administered with caution, if at all, and never contin-

ued over a long period of time as they tend to check all the secretions of the body.

An excessive flow of saliva often follows the removal of all the teeth and the insertion of dentures. In such a case it is partly a mechanical and partly a psychogenic reaction. In your case there has been no major change in the mouth, so I believe it is a general systemic rather than a dental problem.—George R. Warner.

Denture Movement

Q.—I shall appreciate your help in solving my problem concerning a full upper acrylic denture. The patient is a woman about thirty-five years old. Her first denture was constructed one month after her teeth were extracted. A lower acrylic partial was constructed at the same time.

Two months later the denture was remade because the patient thought the anterior teeth protruded too much. The new denture was satisfactory with one exception. The patient states that occasionally when she is talking the denture seems to drop in the region of the anterior teeth. I have observed the patient when she has this sensation. The amount of movement is negligible, although annoying to her.

The denture remains firmly seated during all normal and abnormal lip and muscle movements. The occlusion is good in all positions,

I am at a loss to explain and correct this condition. Have you any suggestions?—N. K., New York.

A.—I would tell this patient that it is normal for all dentures to have slight movement since they fit over soft, movable tissue. Tell her that since the denture does not exactually drop down, she should pay no attention to a slight sensation of loosening except to seat it either with her tongue as in swallowing or by closing her teeth

⁵Prinz, Herman, and Greenbaum, S. S.: Diseases of the Mouth and Their Treatment, Lea and Febiger, 1939.

momentarily.—V. CLYDE SMED-LEY.

Retained Root

Q.—I am enclosing a roentgenogram of a root in the angle of the mandible. It was discovered when the patient was examined for a sinus condition. I should like your advice as to whether or not this patient should have the root removed. She is a woman about fifty-five. —R. C. M., Colorado.

A .- While in our experience

retained roots nearly always are found to be infected when removed, I am not sure that this would be true in the case of the root as shown in the roentgenogram enclosed with your letter. This entity seems to be so definitely incorporated with the bone that I doubt if it would be wise to attempt to remove it, or if it would be found to be infected.—George R. Warner.

LET'S KEEP UP THE FIGHT FOR AUTONOMY

(Continued from page 1391)

meeting in Boston, a group did inaugurate such an organization. The National Dental Veterans League is the realization of that thought. There were about twenty-two thousand dentists in Service during the last great conflict. Ninety-eight per cent of these came from civilian life. Most of them are civilians again. This represents about one-third of the American Dental Association

membership. The desires of the veterans will command the audience and respect of any authority if the veterans speak in unison. The Secretary of The National Dental Veterans League is Doctor James M. Glenn, Collierville, Tennessee. Write to him for information.

2616 North Pennsylvania Street Indianapolis, Indiana

SWISS DENTISTS VISIT UNITED STATES

FOURTEEN dentists who are anxious to meet practicing dentists and dental students in this country left Switzerland the middle of August to spend a month visiting the United States. Most of the dentists will attend the annual meeting of the American Dental Association to be held in Chicago beginning September 13. While in Chicago, the dentists will enroll in special ten-day courses given by Northwestern University Dental School.

The group's tour of this country will include visits to Washington D. C., Niagara Falls, Detroit, the Grand Canyon, and San Francisco



D. JUSTI & SON, INC. PHILADELPHIA 4

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Laffodontia

The young wife was feeling and looking very gloomy.

"What's the trouble, dear?" her friend, a wife of ten years' standing, inquired.

"Oh—my husband has been out all the evening, and I haven't the faintest idea where he is."

"You shouldn't worry about that," her friend replied, breezily. "You'd probably be twice as miserable if you did know!"

Man (at police station): "Could I see the burglar who broke into our house last night?"

Sergeant: "Why do you want to see him?"

Man: "I'd like to ask him how he got in without waking my wife."

"I am a woman of few words," said the haughty mistress to the new maid. "If I beckon with my finger I mean 'Come.'"

"I am a woman of few words, too," replied the maid. "If I shake my head I mean I ain't comin'!"

The country boy watching his first game of golf, was amused at the heroic efforts of a man in a sand trap to extricate himself. Finally the man belted the ball just right and it dropped on the green and rolled into the hole. "Gosh," chuckled the boy, "he's going to have a hard time getting out of that one."

1st Hubby: "My wife tells me that

almost every night she dreams that she's married to a millionaire."

2nd Hubby: "You're darn lucky. Mine thinks that in the daytime."

It was 2 o'clock in the morning. The writer looked haggard and worn. "Darling," said his wife, "are you coming to bed?"

"No," muttered the busy author.
"I've got the pretty girl in the clutches
of the villain and I want to get her
out."

"How old is the girl?"

"Twenty-two."

"Then put out the lights and get to bed," snapped the wife. "She's old enough to take care of herself!"

Artist, to impatient landlord: "In a few years people will look at this miserable studio and say, 'Doaks, the famous artist, used to work there.'"

Landlord: "If I don't get the rent by tonight, they'll be able to say it tomorrow."

We offer a prescription that beats doctors and drugs. Here it is:

Never hurry, never worry; Miss a train if miss you must; For trains and trains and trains Will be running when you're dust.

Young Harry: "Dad, what's the difference between a gun and a machine gun?"

Dad: "There is a big difference. It is just as if I spoke, and then your mother spoke."

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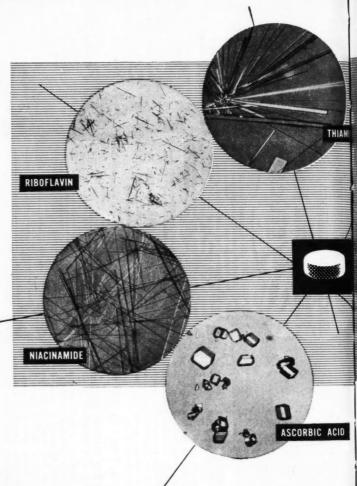
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1415

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When nutritional deficiencies are reflected in oral lesions. Basic Formula Vitamin Tablets Squibb provide:

Correction—of the deficiencies often associated with changes giving rise to gingivitis

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Clinically proved, truly therapeutic dosages of

Thiamine Hydrochloride	10 mg.
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Subjects were a group of 100 people from all walks of life who were regular users of various well-known dentifrices, both pastes and powders. A Reflection Meter directed a concentrated light against an anterior incisor of each person tested. An electronic photocell gave amplified readings in terms of percentage of reflection . . . measured against a fixed standard. Readings were taken 7 days before and for 14 days after the people switched to Calox.

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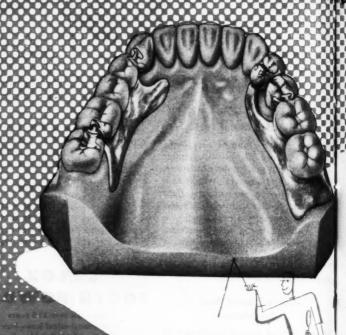
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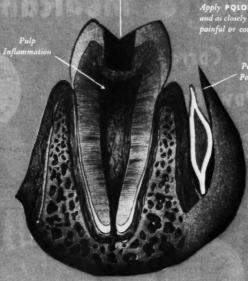
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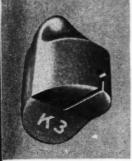
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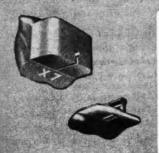
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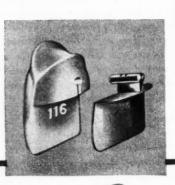






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Special Problems in Denture

Reproduction at the right is taken from the Wernet Booklet "Special Problems in Denture Retention" published for the dental profession.

Retention

HIIHTUIIIICHL CUIIIPLICHIIUIIS

V-Shaped Vault

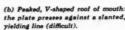


Frequently associated with a tapering type face. Inasmuch stability is proportion of the beat and since

horizontal or near-horizontal palatal suroptimal resistance to the essentially vertimasticatory stress, it becomes evident that
or V-shaped vault, with its limited horizon
presents quite a problem in retention. The
vault is usually seen in the patient with a
heart-shaped face. Surgical correction of
vault is not possible, but denture retentiassisted materially by the use of Wernet's P
ing the adjustment period. Its safe, per
action enhances stability of the denture a
ages rapid patient mastery of the appliance



(a) Flat, U-shaped roo plate presses agains straight line (favorable

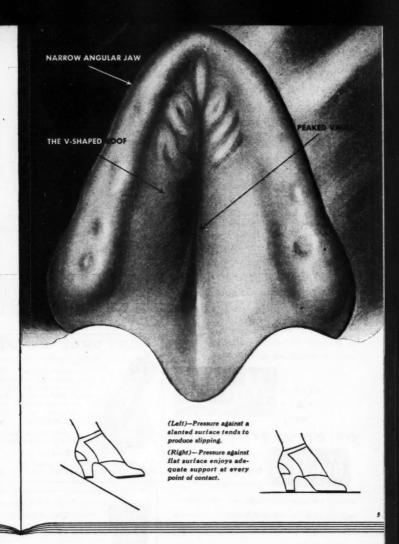








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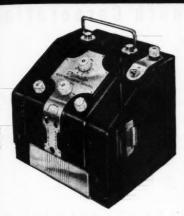
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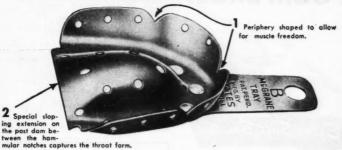
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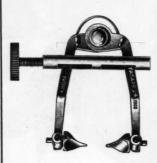
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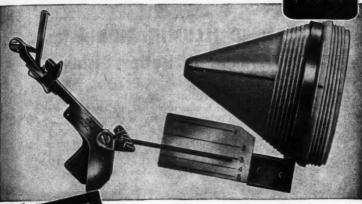
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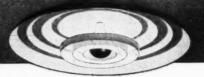
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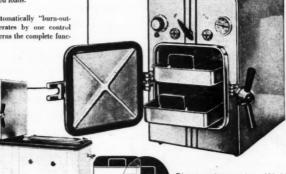
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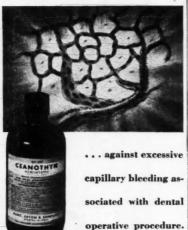


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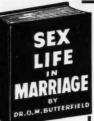
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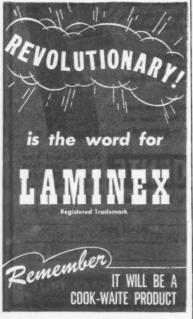


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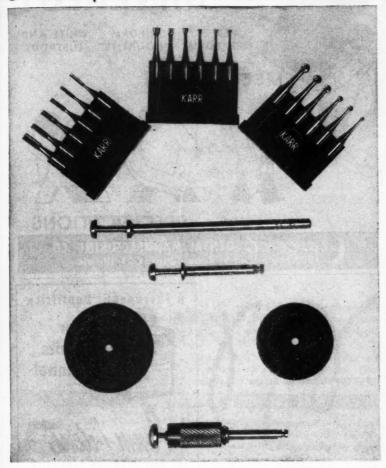
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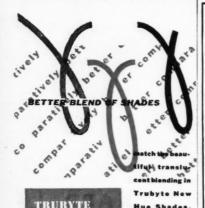
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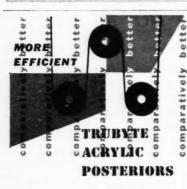
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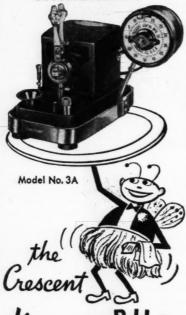
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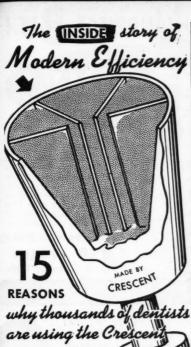
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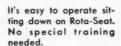
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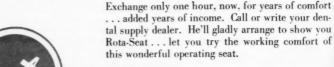
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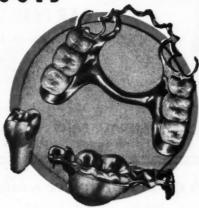
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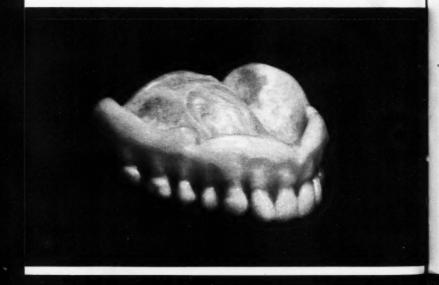




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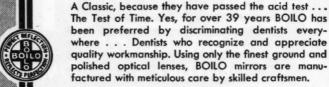
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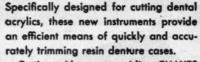
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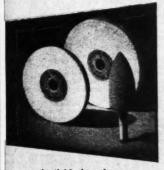
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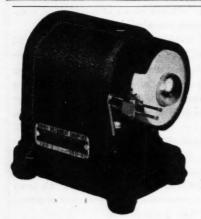
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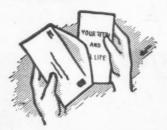
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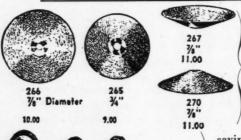
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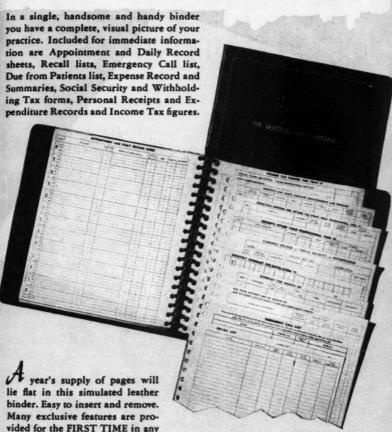
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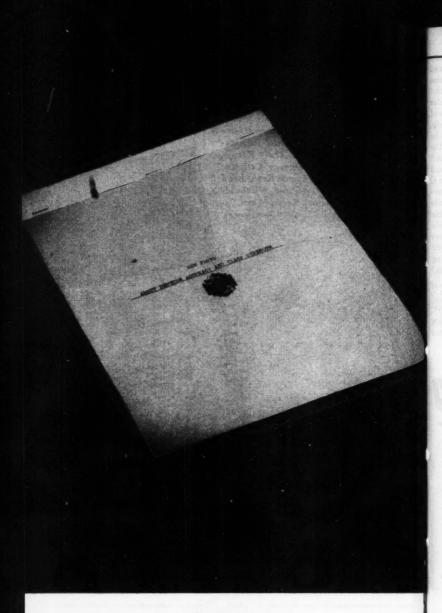


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4. Rose, M. S.: Rose's Foundation of Nutrition, revised by G. MacLeod and C. M. Taylor, Macmillan Co., New York, 4th ed., 1944. 5. Schnurman, A. G.: Virginia Med. Monthly, 74:21, 1947. 6. Sherman, H. C.: Chemistry of Food and Nutrition, Macmillan Co.

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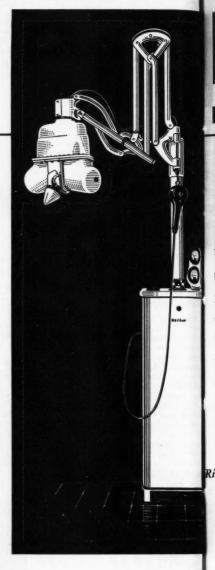
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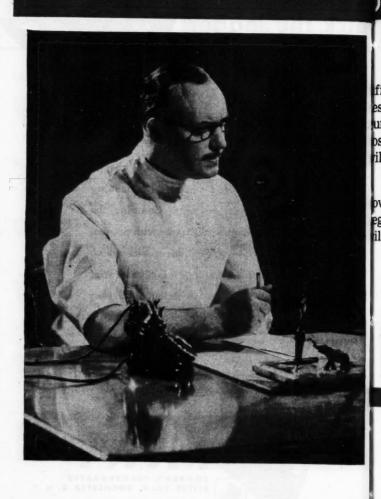
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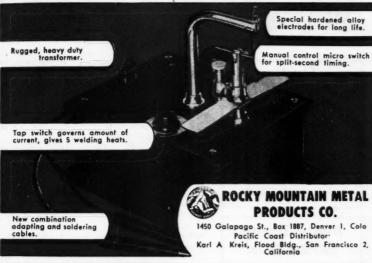
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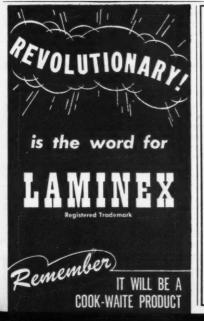
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"33" makes it the only denture resin that is consistently successful in partial restorations—the severest test than any resin can be put to!

Densens "33" molds with micrometric accuracy and retains its molded form in mouth service. No breakage, malocclusion or traumatization of ridges can be caused through warpage or distortion, since all distrupting internal stresses which ordinarily cause distincted changes are dissipated as Densene

That's why you get definite resin-to-tissus fitwhy the accurate molded form of Densena "32" full and partial dentures is retained in mouth service.

etcuracy

One of the largest and most reputable laboratories in the country reported an astaunding average of only one remake for every 750 Densene partial restorations produced during the year.

no warpage

(1) mun "33"



WHO'S WHO AND WHERE

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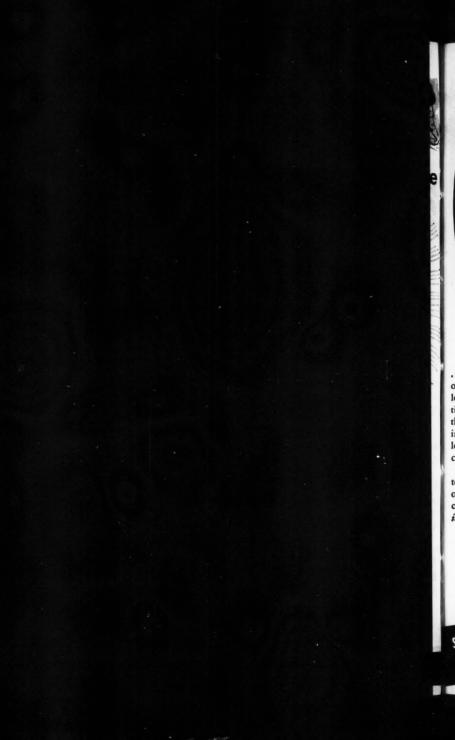
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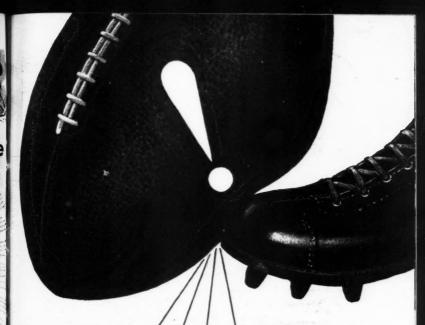
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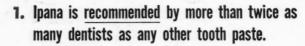
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